

# KEMPER KONNECTION

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## A Word to the Wise... What to give mom for Mother's Day

Mother's Day is around the corner. Children are busy preparing a wonderful homemade gift for mom. Coffee filter flowers, or perhaps a real flower planted at school in a handpainted pot. Maybe a butterfly painted with their little footprints. Sunday morning breakfast in bed. Handmade coupons for mom, redeemable for cleaning one's room, or giving mom an hour of quiet time. Mother's Day is a time to honor the woman who gave us life, and so much more.

Above all, moms are known for the infinite wisdom they impart to us as we go through life. We all have specific words of wisdom we remember mom repeating over and over. We shall be ever-grateful for their wise words:

- Cleanliness is next to Godliness.
- Always do what's right!
- Never put off tomorrow what you can do today.
- Judge not lest you be judged!
- A watched pot never boils.
- No one knows what goes on behind closed doors.
- Put your best foot forward.
- He's riding for a fall...
- I have a memory like an elephant.
- Walk softly but carry a big stick
- He who laughs last, laughs best.
- Actions speak louder than words.
- A new broom cleans...and sweeps all the trash away.
- Strike while the iron is hot!
- Idle hands are the devil's workshop!
- Love your neighbor as yourself.
- When a task is once begun, never leave until it's done!
- Early to bed, early to rise, makes a person healthy, wealthy & wise.
- Better late, than never.
- Measure twice, cut once.
- The buck stops here, Harry.
- Better safe than sorry.
- That's the straw that broke the camel's back.
- Find a penny, pick it up and all the day you'll have good luck.
- That's a fine kettle of fish...
- Half a loaf is better than none.
- Let the good times roar and roll.
- Children should be seen and not heard.
- That's the goose that laid the golden egg.
- Treat others like you would like to be treated!
- His bark is worse than his bite.
- Finish your supper! People are starving in China.
- Still waters run deep...
- Wait 'til your father gets home!
- Be quick as a wink
- You can't go back; you can only go forward!
- Pursue happiness....It is a moral obligation.
- All good things must come to an

My favorite piece of wisdom is that *mother knows best*, but I didn't heed that advice until I became a mom myself!

Mother's Day took on a new meaning for me nearly four years ago when my first son was born just two days prior. The nurses in the hospital made a sign for his bassinette wishing me a

happy early mother's day. In his four years of life, he has taught me much about what it means to be a mom, and he's inspired me to try to be a better person. I know the years ahead will be filled with many lessons too—for both of us! Now each year, I look forward to celebrating his birth—the event that ushered me into the ranks of motherhood—in tandem with Mother's Day.

What does Mother's Day mean to you? It probably isn't the kind of day it used to be. For those of us dealing with Alzheimer's, it is a time to honor our two moms — the one who has already left us and the one left behind.

There are many ways you can honor mom (or dad, as Father's Day is coming in June!) on her special day. The gift of time, a visit from you (if geographically possible) might be just enough. Looking for a gift to give to mom? Consider the stage she is in when selecting a gift. In the early stages, gifts probably wouldn't be much different than what you would have given before a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or a related disorder.

More ideas for each stage:

### Early Stage

- Classic movies and TV shows
- Activity books: math games, crossword puzzle, strategy games
- Music CD's – especially music that also stimulates reminiscing
- Reading material that reflects the interests of the reader

### Middle Stage

- Activities to inspire reminiscing
- Senior Activity Books
- Any manipulative device that promotes movement (of the hands, arms, etc.)
- Simple games and puzzles
- Anything that stimulates any of the senses

### Late Stage

- Nature videos that feature visual and auditory stimulation
- Doll or stuffed animal
- Weighted lap pad or apron
- Twiddle® Muff

For more information on these gift ideas, go to [www.best-alzheimers-products.com](http://www.best-alzheimers-products.com).

Wishing you a very happy Mother's Day!

-Jenny Kemper

(The list of Mother's Wisdom was generated by our residents with Carol Sereix during recent creative writing activities.)

## Resident Spotlight.... *Ellie A.*

*When you enter Lakeside, one of the first Residents you meet, will most likely be Ellie. She is very stylish and still likes to co-ordinate all of her outfits with accessories and jewelry. She attributes this attention to detail to wearing school uniforms in H.S. Ellie says she had a twin brother who died at birth, and she still feels that loss. Her father was a violinist with the Cleveland Orchestra. Ellie was a beautician for many years. She met her husband, Lee, at a party; eventually they ran off to New York to get married. One of the things they loved was dancing at Euclid Beach. They had 3 children; Gayle, Karen, and a son Richard they lost to cancer. Ellie loves to travel, especially to Arizona. They had dogs & cats; Ellie also loves poetry, drawing & painting, bowling, gardening flowers & veggies, and sewing. One busy lady...it's no surprise that Ellie likes to be part of Activities, especially going out to the Olive Garden and Bob Evans. Ellie is always looking for ways to help everyone with a great smile and laugh. Most of all, Ellie is proud of her children, grandchildren and 2 great-grandsons.*

## Employee of the Month

Congrats to Meghan of Hospitality. Meghan has been with us a only a short time, but became part of the team very quickly. Originally from Michigan, Meghan moved to Ohio 6yrs ago with her family. Now she is enjoying another move into her first apartment with her boyfriend and her 12 yr. old companion, Miles, her Cairn Terrier.

When not working, Meghan enjoys reading, baking and walking Miles. She enjoys taking Miles to Garfield Park and down by the falls in Chagrin.

One of Meghan's long term plans is to become a speech therapist.

Let Meghan know we enjoy having her here at Kemper !

## *Congratulations to Kemper House Mentor Staff!*

**On Thursday March 29, the Ohio Department of Health was here for their Annual State Survey. We are pleased to announce that Kemper House was found to be in compliance with State policies and regulations, and free of deficiencies.**

*Great job Mentor Staff!*

## *Celebrating Mom in May*



### **A GIFT FOR MOTHER**

*BY THE RESIDENTS OF MENTOR --MAY 2012 FACILITATED BY CAROL S*

Once upon a time, there was a little boy named Alvin. Alvin loved his mother very dearly, and wanted to buy her something special for Mother's Day.

He walked to Rose's Floral Shop intent on purchasing roses and asters. However, Rose told him, "You need more money, Alvin."

Alvin felt terrible. He stomped along 'til he came to John's Jewelry Store. Alvin spied a gold necklace....He was CERTAIN Mother would love the necklace. But, John turned to Alvin, and said, "This is a business. I can't GIVE my jewelry away!"

Alvin walked along....and, before he knew it, he was in front of Dick's Sporting Goods Store. Perhaps Mother would like a fishing pole...But, when Alvin found the perfect pole, the proprietor said, "No mullah....No pole! "

Harvey's Hardware Store beckoned. Mother would LOVE a new sling shot ! He thought he had enough money...but when he went to purchase it, Harvey told him, "Sorry, Alvin....I just sold the last one."

A meal at a restaurant would make a lovely gift for Mother. Alvin knew Mother loved Gefelte fish and Matzo ball soup....But, when he went inside to make reservations, the manager said, "No money....no food."

Alvin was sad....depressed. On his way home, he passed Ellie's Boutique. Oh, he saw the most BEAUTIFUL pink cotton dress. He knew Mother's favorite color was pink. But, when he entered the boutique, Ellie said, "I am sorry, Alvin, but if you don't have the money, you can't buy the dress!"

Alvin was mighty low....As he trudged home, the bleak reality that he had no gift for Mother really hit him.

As Alvin came through the door, Mother was in the kitchen preparing dinner. Alvin ran to Mother, and gave her a huge hug. He told Mother he was sorry he had no gift for Mother's Day....

But, Mother hugged him back, and smiled...."Oh, Alvin," she replied "You don't have to bring me a Mother's Day Gift...for, *YOUR LOVE IS THE VERY BEST GIFT OF ALL !*"

And....Alvin smiled.



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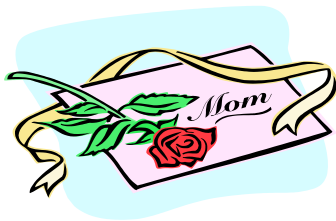
8155 Mentor Hills Drive  
Mentor, OH 44060

Phone: (440) 256-5200

Fax: (440) 256-5206

Web: [www.KemperHouse.com](http://www.KemperHouse.com)

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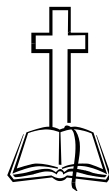
## Welcome to the Neighborhood

Country Way

Della S.  
Salvador C.



## In Memoriam



May God bestow  
His blessings upon  
those families and friends  
who have lost their loved ones

*Leo A.*  
*Julia B*  
*Alvin G.*

## Happy Birthday!

### Residents

Maxine M. 5/20  
Nola W. 5/22  
Jack B. 5/24

### Staff

Trina L. 5/12  
Becky B. 5/22  
Olivia C. 5/26  
Bonnie G. 5/27  
Mary B. 5/28  
Whitney K. 5/29

## Kemper House is Smoke-Free!

The use of cigarettes and other tobacco products including cigars, pipes, and smokeless tobacco is prohibited at all times on all Kemper House property, including the facilities and parking lots.

Residents are still permitted to smoke in designated areas at the discretion of the building administrator.

